

viewable data objects;

a content manager in communication

with said storage server,

with said first local server, and

with said second local server,

said content manager being configured to automatically control access, by a viewer receiver, to a viewable data object from said selection of viewable data objects.

3. (Thrice Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said first local server is adapted to transmit a viewable data objects to a viewer receiver selected from a group consisting of a television and a personal computer.

4. (Thrice Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said first local server is configured to detect that a first viewable data object has a lower priority than a second viewable data object; and to delete said first viewable data object to free space to store said second viewable data object.

7. (Thrice Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said content manager is adapted to control work queues for video data objects stored on said first local server.

9. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 1

wherein said first local server is in two-way communication with said viewer receiver, thereby providing interactive communication between said viewer receiver and said first local server.

*W.E. Canceled per Amended*  
27. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 70, wherein the act of sending the first data object and the act of sending the second data object are executed in response to requests from the viewer receivers.

*W.E.* 28. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 70, wherein the act of selecting a first viewable data object and the act of selecting a second viewable data object are executed, in part, on the basis of operations data received from the local servers.

*W.E.* 29. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 70, further comprising:  
  
sending a list of available viewable data objects to the first local server; and  
  
wherein the act of selecting a first viewable data object is executed in response to receiving the list and to priorities for data object content at the first local server.

*W.E.* 30. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 70, further comprising:  
  
receiving a request for a viewable data object from the first viewer receiver; and  
  
wherein the act of selecting a first data object is executed in response to receiving the request from the first viewer receiver.

*W.E.* 31. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 70, further comprising:  
  
transmitting meta data from a central manager to the local servers; and  
  
receiving a request for a viewable data object from a viewer receiver in response to streaming a portion of the meta data on the viewer receiver.

*W.E.* 32. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 70, wherein the act of selecting includes calculating a delay with operations data from the first local server; and  
  
wherein transmitting a first viewable data object is performed after the delay ends; and further comprising:

storing a portion of the first viewable data object in storage space of the first local server freed at the end of the delay.

33. (Thrice Amended) A network to provide viewable data objects to television viewers interactively, the network comprising:

a first local server to store viewable data objects, said first local server being configured to transmit particular viewable data objects to a first set of televisions, and to transmit a particular viewable data object to one of the televisions in said first set of televisions in response to receiving a request from the one of the televisions in said first set of televisions;

a second local server to store viewable data objects, said second local server being configured to transmit particular viewable data objects to a second set of televisions and to transmit a particular viewable data object to one of the televisions in said second set of televisions in response to receiving a request from the one of the televisions in said second set of televisions;

a storage server coupled to distribute viewable data objects to the first and second local servers, the storage server being responsive to demands of the sets of televisions connected to each different local server; and

a content manager in communication with the storage server, the first local server, and the second local server, the content manager being configured to automatically control access to viewable data objects by a television.

34. (Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said content manager is configured to control access to a viewable data object by adaptively controlling distribution of said viewable data objects among said storage server and said first and second local servers on the basis of a property associated with each of said viewable data objects.

49. (Twice Amended) A method for providing a viewable data object to a viewer receiver, said

method comprising:

storing a first selection of viewable data objects on a first local server, said first local server being in communication with said viewer receiver;

storing a second selection of viewable data objects on a second local server;

storing a set of viewable data objects on a storage server in communication with said first local server and with said second local server, said set of viewable data objects including said selection of viewable data objects

providing a content manager in communication with said first local server, said second local server, and said storage server, for automatically managing each of said first and second local servers to control access by said viewer receiver to a viewable data object selected from said first selection of viewable data objects.

50. (Amended) The method of claim 49, wherein automatically controlling access to a viewable data object by a viewer receiver comprises adaptively controlling distribution of said viewable data objects among said storage server and said first and second local servers on the basis of a property associated with each of said viewable data objects.

56. (Amended) The method of claim 55 further comprising assigning said priority to said viewable data object on the basis of properties of a first local server designated as a candidate to receive said viewable data object.--

Please consider new claims 70-72.

-- 70. (New) A method of distributing viewable data objects to viewer receivers, the method comprising:

selecting a first viewable data object from a pool of viewable data objects in response to a first preselected event;

selecting a second viewable data object from the pool in response to a second preselected event;

*E1*  
*and* transmitting the first and second viewable data objects to respective first and second local servers, the first and second objects being responsive to different priorities of the respective first and second local servers for viewable data object content;

*D7*  
*concl.* sending the first viewable data object from the first local server to a first viewer receiver; and

sending the second viewable data object from the second local server to a second viewer receiver.

71. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the content manager is in direct communication with one of said first and second local servers.

72. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the content manager is in communication with one of said first and second local servers by way of the storage server.--